



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, CA 90012 – (213) 974-1465

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Mr. James Cragin
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore
Mr. Michael A. Russell

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING** **DECEMBER 1, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Montano at 10:09 a.m. Chair Montano welcomed Mrs. Carl Moore, wife of Commissioner Moore, and Mrs. Frank Bacio, wife of Commissioner Bacio.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE - ROLL CALL

Present:

Chair Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
Michael Russell
Carl Moore

Excused

John Hammargren

Absent

James Cragin

Others Present

Mrs. Carl Moore
Mrs. Frank Bacio
Jim Corbett, Asst. Chief, Commission
Services
Lee Millen, Commission Services
Sherry Scates, Commission Staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2004

On motion of Commissioner Cannella, seconded by Commissioner Moore and unanimously carried, the November 24, 2004, meeting minutes were approved with the following additions:

Page 1, Present: add *Commissioner Carl Moore*

Page 4, Rosemary Children's Services/500 House, last sentence: add
"*...management in regard to the unsatisfactory conditions mentioned above.*"

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montano reported the following:

- She, Vice Chair Stathatos and Sherry Scates, Commission Staff, viewed the documentary "Juvies" following last week's Commission meeting. Vice Chair Stathatos reported that all found the movie to be both informative and heartrending. The movie is a series of interviews with a group of juvenile hall inmates wherein each teen describes his/her crime and the length of their incarceration. Not only is the film emotionally impacting offering a glimpse of the teen's troubled family lives and the peer pressure they experience from street gangs, but it describes the "special enhancements" levied on juveniles by the courts when they are tried as adults. Vice Chair Stathatos noted that all strongly agreed that "Juvies" has a message of deterrent value for all youth and would be an excellent addition to the Commission's "Recommended Viewing" list. Also, Ms. Scates suggested that the Commission consider using the balance of their Charitable Fund to reproduce the DVD, if copyright restrictions permit, for distribution to group homes, DCFS and Probation Departments, etc. Chair Montano advised that when all Commissioners have viewed the film this matter would be placed on a future agenda for discussion.
- Commissioner Russell announced his resignation due to increasing family and business responsibilities. His letter of resignation was submitted with regrets and will become effective January 15, 2005. Commissioner Russell thanked the Commission for their friendship and support. He advised that he has spoken with Supervisor Yaroslavsky regarding his resignation and the need for a new appointment.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported that the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$765.41.

STAFF REPORT

Lee Millen, Commission Services, suggested that Commissioners might wish to consider the Joel Valverde Youth Center at the Whittier Sheriff's Academy, Star Center, for their holiday charitable giving efforts.

Sherry Scates, Commission Staff, reported the following:

- Dr. David Sanders' DCFS office notified the Commission that Elizabeth Howard is now the DCFS liaison to the Commission. Chair Montano instructed Staff to postpone the letter to Dr. Sanders regarding DCFS attendance at Commission Business meetings;
- An Audit Review form was developed and distributed for Commissioners' use for the evaluation of Group Home Monitoring Audit Reviews;
- Draft copies of the Commission's Sunset Review Evaluation (2004-2008) were distributed to Commissioners; and
- A list of facilities to be visited in 2005 was distributed to Commissioners.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Montano distributed Auditor-Controller Reports to Vice Chair Stathatos for her review and summary at a future Commission meeting.

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

Rosemary Children's Services/Green House – 94 #2

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on November 29th and gave a rating of **Satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported.

Rosemary Children's Services/Main Site – 94 #3

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on November 29th and gave a rating of **Satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported.

Rosemary Children's Services/Romberger House – 95 #1

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on November 26th and gave a rating of **Satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported.

Affirmative Action Group Home – 1 #1

Chair Montano and Commissioners Moore and Bacio revisited this facility on November 30th and found that work was already underway to correct the unsatisfactory conditions that Commissioners reported after their November 15th inspection. Chair Montano noted that there is still a great deal of work that needs to be done at this facility to bring it up to satisfactory standards

and Commissioners will continue to follow-up on their progress. **A re-inspection will be scheduled in one (1) month.**

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Montano assigned inspection duties to Commissioners for the following week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Scates
Commission Staff